

# FAITH TALK

Faith United Church of Christ

March 2019

Tripoli, Iowa

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We pray for the healing and well-being of these beloved children of God...

Logan Liddle  
Garnetta Snyder  
Adam Moeller  
Don Hill (Steve Hill's brother)  
Nora Ann Beck (Marlys Biermann's gr. niece)  
Glennis Smith (Karen Milius' Mom)  
Judy Garner (Karen Milius' Sister)  
Adam Moeller (son of Kathy Westendorf and Gary Moeller)  
Stacy Nuss  
T T Schmidt  
Sharon Sommerfelt

We pray for members and friends of the church serving in the military...

Shane Buchholz  
Brandon Burrows  
Matthew Coulthard  
Kristian Heidemann  
Ethan Henry  
Kaitlin Westendorf

We hold in prayer our members in home...

Jean Bentley  
Richard Buhr  
Betty Holm  
Betty Hills  
Orlyn Milius  
Betty Roder  
Garnetta Snyder

*"Remember me..."*

Recently while my family was visiting, I offered to fix a snack of popcorn for my granddaughter. I put the bag of popcorn in the microwave, set the timer, and went upstairs for a moment or two. Well, you can guess how that went. I spent more time chatting with my daughter than I had intended and suddenly my granddaughter appeared at the top of the stairs with a towel to her nose and watery eyes. I immediately knew what had happened and as I headed downstairs the smell of burnt popcorn greeted me. Popcorn done. And then some. Unfortunately, that was the last bag I had so my granddaughter and I drove to the store for more. While at the register the cashier remarked to a co-worker, "Oh not, did someone burn something in the microwave?" I dryly replied, "No, that's us." Yeah, those are words no one really wants to say! Walking back into the house, the smell still permeated the air despite the running exhaust fan and diffuser. Two days later, the odor was dwindling but still lingered.

That memory of the burning 50-cent bag of microwave popcorn will continue to linger with me long into the future. And bring a smile. Who knows – it might even be a memory my granddaughter giggles about when she is living in her first apartment and preparing her own bag of microwave popcorn. Simple but memorable.

When Jesus had that final meal with his disciples in that upper room, he offered them bread and wine and asked them to remember him when, in the future, they shared those same elements. Now while it might be a stretch to relate my story of the burned popcorn to Jesus' words to the disciples, what I think is relatable is that it isn't always the fanciest symbols that allow us to remember life events.

When Jesus sat at that long-ago table, I can only imagine what was going through his mind as he pondered how best to give his followers something that would call to mind all they had shared together. Looking around the table, perhaps his eyes fell upon the bread and the wine. Two elements that would be at many of their tables in the future. Two elements they and those who followed could eat and drink and remember him as they did.

What opportunities has/will God provide to you that bring to mind the truth of living offered to us through Jesus the Christ? As you take your first steps into Lent...the ashes of remembrance displayed on your forehead or hand...feeling strong in your faith and strong in your will to pick up your cross and follow Jesus...will that resilience continue as the darkness of the journey begins to overtake you? What happens when you feel lost and abandoned to the looming shadows? What happens when you begin to doubt in God's ability to bring you safely to where you need to be? My friends, when that happens lean back into those words of Jesus, "remember me." Stop, listen, and remember. Stop, look carefully around you, and remember. Breathe in deeply. Let the beautiful scent of God's love to waft about you. Remember. Remember.

Eventually the burned popcorn aroma will no longer be noticeable in my kitchen. But God's presence...God's love...God's promise of life eternal will never fade. Never. It will always be there. Recognize the signs. Grasp onto elements of hope that come your way. And remember. Always. Now and forever. Remember.

**OUTREACH AND THINGS TO DO**

The **WOMEN OF FAITH** bring to the church the monthly opportunity to support **HIS HANDS FOOD PANTRY** in Oran through monthly donations of food and household items. For the month of March, the food pantry has requested donations of

*Condiments: Mustard, mayo, pickles, etc.*

Items may be placed in one of the baskets located throughout the building.

**Outreach Opportunity at Tripoli Schools**

Do you have 30-60 minutes a week you are able to donate to our community's precious population group – our students? Brannon Burroughs, Outreach Counselor for Tripoli Schools, is starting a reading program where adult volunteers listen to students read on a weekly basis. Students will be able to receive immediate feedback as well as the opportunity to develop a supportive relationship with an adult. If you are interested, contact the church office or you may contact Brannon directly at [burroughsb@tripoli.k12.ia.us](mailto:burroughsb@tripoli.k12.ia.us)

**Area Volunteer Opportunity**

Trinkets & Togs is in need of volunteers to assist with various tasks: sorting and processing donated goods, hanging clothing, stocking shelves, and assisting customers. Volunteers are needed for 4-6 hours per week. Times are available from 10 am to 6 pm on weekdays and 10 am to 5 pm on Saturdays. Interested? Call 319.260.2237

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**Women of Faith**  
  
**The Women of Faith will meet on Tuesday, March 12 at 6:45 pm for the regular meeting. All women of the church are invited to join this group.**



**Quilters Needed!**

It has been a long-standing tradition that the Fall Dinner Raffle includes a hand-stitched quilt by the Faith UCC Quilters. Through the years the number of quilters has declined. Without new members, there will not be a quilt produced for this year's raffle. If you have ever quilted or if you have always wanted to learn how, now is your chance! Please contact Dolores Schmidt at 882.3246 with questions or to volunteer your time!

Council Minutes

Faith United Church of Christ  
Council Meeting Minutes  
February 4, 2019

Members In Attendance: Steve Hill, Rich Milius, Keith Stahlhut, Trevor Johnson, Tracy Buchholz, Dean Shinstine, Brian Bunce, Roger Goudschaal, Marlene Snelling, Lisa Chapin, Barb Hill, and Pastor Marilyn Sargent

Members Absent: Juanita Mohlis

Opening Prayer: Pastor Marilyn Sargent

Meeting called to order at 6:28 pm

Additions to Agenda:

Election of Council:

Head Trustee: Rich Milius; Head Elder: Marlene Snelling; Vice President: Steve hill; President: Roger Goudschaal

Minutes of January 7, 2019:

Motion – Steve Hill; 2<sup>nd</sup> Tracy Buchholz. Motion Carried

Treasurer's Report:

Motion to approve Marlene Snelling 2<sup>nd</sup> Keith Stahlhut Motion Carried

Reminder we need to bring in \$12,000 a month so we do not go negative. We were short in January. We will send Financial Reports out to members at the year of the year that have given \$0. We will not send these to members in school or nursing homes.

Trustee's Report:

We will leave the thermostat at 68 degrees in the sanctuary.

Elder's Report:

Education Board and Sunday School have been busy cleaning out rooms and storing and sorting out things. Students have been enjoying lighting the candles, collecting offering, and ushering.

Liaison's Report:

Cemetery Committee reviewed financed of markets. Sunday School working on cleaning.

Pastor's Report:

4/5 new members will be joining in the next few months. Late March we will dedicate projector and screen. The response to the new project has been positive.

Old Business:

Auditing Committee reviewed financial books and all were in order.

New Business:

Table Committee list until March. Liaisons to contact their group and note any changes in membership. Memorial Committee has some funds they are looking to see what projects we have coming up. Also, looking at painting sanctuary.

Adjourn:

Motion by Tracy Buchholz, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Rich Milius. Motion Carried

Respectfully submitted, Brian Bunce, Recorder



Congratulations to Kailey Heidemann for making the Dean's List at the University of Northern Iowa.

Congratulations to Justine Liddle for making the Dean's List at Upper Iowa University.

Way to Go!!! Be proud of your accomplishments!

### Faith United Church of Christ 2019 Lent and Holy Week Schedule

#### Lent

Meals served 6:00 to 6:45 pm in Fellowship Hall

Worship services begin at 7:00 pm

Date	Meal Hosted By	Entrée	Worship Location
March 5 Shrove Tuesday		Pancakes 5:30-6:30 pm	
March 6 Ash Wednesday	Meal for Mission	Meat Loaf	Sanctuary
March 13	Choir	Chili and Cheese Soup	Sanctuary
March 20	Men of Faith	Scallop Potatoes and Ham	Sanctuary
March 27	Adult Educ. Class	Lasagna	Sanctuary
April 3	Women of Faith	Baked Potato Bar	Sanctuary
April 10	Faith Education	Beef Burgers	Sanctuary

#### Holy Week

Meal served from 6:00 to 6:45 in Fellowship Hall

Worship services begin at 7:00 pm

Date	Meal Hosted By	Entrée	Worship Location
April 18 (Maundy Thursday)	Church Council	Pork Loin	Sanctuary
April 19 (Good Friday)			Sanctuary
April 20 (Easter Vigil)			Sanctuary

#### Easter – April 21

Sunrise Service at 6:30 am followed by Easter Breakfast

Sunday School 9:00 am

Easter Worship at 10:00 in Sanctuary

## *Entering the Passion of Jesus...*

This year's Lenten Study is *Entering the Passion of Jesus: A Beginner's Guide to Holy Week*, written by Amy-Jill (AJ) Levine, University Professor of New Testament and Jewish Studies at Vanderbilt Divinity School in Nashville, TN.

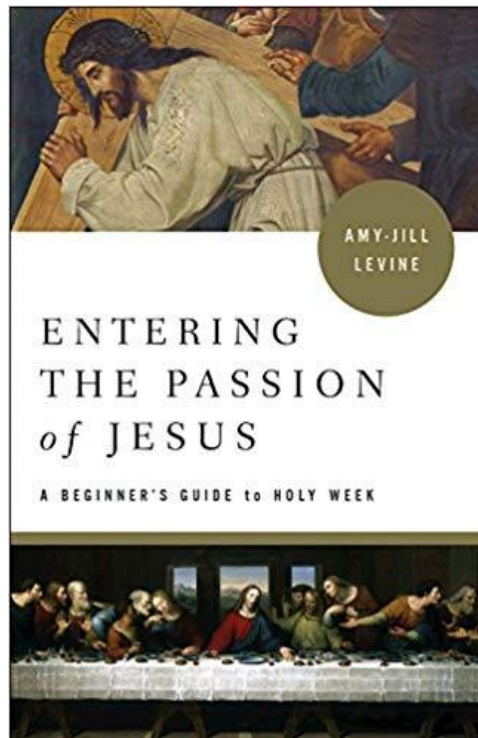
Levine is the author of a number of books and journal articles and in this new publication she explores the history and literature surrounding the last days of Jesus' life. She sets the narrative in historical context and examines the risks and motives of the story's characters.

From the book jacket, "From Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem to his prayerful agony in Gethsemane, Levine brings forward aspects and details that open doors for beginners as well as seasoned readers of the Bible. She shows how the text raises ethical and spiritual questions for the reader, and how we all face risk in our Christian experience."

The study offers six sessions:

- Week One – Jerusalem: Risking Reputation
- Week Two – The Temple: Risking Righteous Anger
- Week Three – Teachings: Risking Challenge
- Week Four – The First Dinner: Risking Rejection
- Week Five – The Last Supper: Risking the Loss of Friends
- Week Six – Gethsemane: Risking Temptation

We will be gathering in the sanctuary each Wednesday evening at 7:00 pm to watch the DVD and engage in conversation, reflection, and prayer. There is also a book available for purchase at \$12.50 each. They are not a requirement for the Wednesday night sessions but will be ordered for those interested. If the book cost doesn't fit with your current budget, please talk with Pastor Marilyn.



**MARCH VOLUNTEERS**

HEAD USHERS: Keith Stahlhut &amp; Tracy Buchholz

**Ushers:**

3 Church Council  
 10 Bob & Donna Sassman  
 17 Larry & Joan Struck  
 24 Dean & Brenda Shinstine  
 31 Ken & Juanita Mohlis

**Greeters:**

3 Mike & Kathy Westendorf  
 10 Larry & Joan Struck  
 17 Bonnie Travers  
 24 Kenny & Darlys Buhrow  
 31 Mel & Verdeen Ohlendorf

**Liturgists:**

3 Roger Goudschaal  
 10 Beth Goudschaal  
 17 Kristi Ladage  
 24 Lisa Chapin  
 31 Mike Westendorf

**Fellowship Time Servers:**

3 Mike & Holly Johnson  
 10  
 17 Hill Family – Dolores 89<sup>th</sup> Birthday  
 24  
 31 Mike & Kathy Westendorf, Bonnie Travers

**MARCH BIRTHDAYS**

Mar. 1 JoEllen Snelling-Behn  
 Mar. 3 Glen Ladage  
 Mar. 4 Todd Quigley  
 Mar. 5 Corbin Liddle  
 Mar. 7 Verona Biermann  
 Mar. 10 Darlene Buchholz  
 Mar. 12 Christopher Kehe  
 Mar. 13 Kaitlin Westendorf  
 Mar. 15 Kenny Buhrow  
 Mar. 16 Dolores Schmidt  
 Steve Schmidt  
 Joan Gloede  
 Mar. 18 Kristian Heidemann  
 Mar. 21 Zachery Buhrow  
 Mar. 22 Glenyce Bolte  
 Matthew Moeller  
 Mar. 30 Gary Moeller  
 Holly Johnson  
 Mar. 31 Neysa Rinkenburger

**Faith UCC****Council**

President Roger Goudschaal  
 Vice-president Steve Hill  
 Recorder Brian Bunce

**Elders**

Marlene Snelling (Chair)  
 Brian Bunce  
 Lisa Chapin  
 Roger Goudschaal  
 Juanita Mohlis  
 Dean Shinstine

**Trustees**

Rich Milius (Chair)  
 Tracy Buchholz  
 Steve Hill  
 Trevor Johnson  
 Keith Stahlhut  
 Ashley Penrod

**Staff**

Pastor Rev. Marilyn Sargent  
[rev.msargent@gmail.com](mailto:rev.msargent@gmail.com)  
 Administrative Assistant Barb Rich  
 Financial Secretary Roger Goudschaal  
 Treasurer Barb Hill  
 Inside Custodians Kenny & Darlys Buhrow  
 Director of Music Elizabeth Goudschaal  
 Musicians June Buhr  
 Phoebe Drape  
 Dawn Holm  
 Mary Jo Rathe

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